

It's SwapFest Time!

SwapFest Rules:

Only computer related goods, please!

Tables available on a first come, first served basis.

Only MilAtari members may display items for sale.

All items for sale must be in working order unless clearly marked as not working on the item for sale



Bring your cash



Or bring your stash...

No pirated software will be tolerated on the premise.

MilAtari Ltd. is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

This Month:

General Meeting:

Saturday, February 15, noon
Greenfield Park Lutheran Church
1236 S. 115th Street

Executive Board Meeting:

Sunday, March 1, 7:00 p.m.
Shakey's
9638 W. National Avenue

Next Month:

General Meeting
Saturday, March 21, 1992

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After all, it is February...



MilAtari Ltd.
P.O. Box 14038
West Allis, WI 53214

Membership

Membership in MilAtari Ltd. is open to all individuals and families interested in computing. Annual dues are \$20.00 for individuals or \$25.00 per family. Membership includes a one year subscription to the MilAtari Limited Edition, access to the Publication Library, and allows purchases from all Public Domain Libraries as well as the Resale Shop.

Meetings

MilAtari Meetings are normally held on the third Saturday of each month at Greenfield Park Lutheran Church, 1236 S. 115th St. The doors open at noon. There is an hour milling period for members to socialize while browsing through the Publication Library, and making their purchases from the PD Libraries and Resale shop. We also have a station set up to demonstrate the newest ST PD offerings, or to help members with specific software problems with hands on assistance. The Business meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. Afterwards there are demonstrations of commercial software or small instructional groups form.

Newsletter

The MilAtari Ltd. Edition is published by and for MilAtari Ltd. Opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of MilAtari Ltd., its officers or advertisers, none of which are affiliated in any way with Atari Corp., except where noted otherwise.

Submissions are encouraged, and can be sent via the Club BBS, or by making other arrangements with the Editor. All submissions should be in ASCII or WordWriter format please, with NO special formatting such as centered text, tabs, or bold, italics, etc. All submissions are due by the 25th of each month. For information on placing ads, contact the Editor at 628-4435.

Equipment used for the MilAtari Limited Edition consists of a Mega 4 ST, ICD Hard Drive, Unisys Laser printer, and Pagestream 2.1.

MilAtari Ltd. Bulletin Board

MilAtari Ltd. supports a public bulletin board system. Members and non-members alike are welcome to use the service. When applying for a password for first time use, please allow one week for validation. All requested information must be supplied or the SysOp may exercise his right to deny access, at his discretion. Only real names are allowed. If you are having trouble getting on or around in our system, call one of the officers or volunteers listed above.

MilAtari Ltd. collects 5.5% state and county sales tax on all purchases, including membership dues, as is required by law.

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8Bit VP	Joe Sliker	483-7917
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Mac PD	Bob Garlock	
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Notice:

The deadline for the March issue of the
 MilAtari Ltd. Edition is
February 25th .
Beat the rush & get your article in now!
Your Editor

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Public Welcome!

Presidential Ruminations

**"But time,
Keeps flowing like a river.
To the sea."**

- ALAN PARSONS PROJECT

This month's meeting promises to be an exciting one for one and all! First, we will be holding the MilAtari Annual SwapFest. This means that any member in good standing can bring any computer related items for resale. We'll supply the tables; you do the rest! I can honestly say from experience that many great deals for just about every type of computer related item have been made at this annual event.

As usual, we will offer the Resale Shop and our great Libraries that feature PD Software for the 8-Bit and ST computers. Incidentally, have you noticed that our ST PD Library is currently broken down into 4 different sections: ST PD Software, Supplemental Software (ST), MAC Emulator PD Software and IBM Emulator PD Software. Did you know that the Atari ST (and TT) computer is the only computer that will emulate both MAC and IBM Software? Please come and check out these fine services that are offered to you. The volunteers that run these areas put in lots of time organizing and operating these functions for you, the member. Your patronage IS noted and appreciated! (Not to mention what it does for the club coffer!)

Last month Bill Rupp introduced the ST diagnostic cartridge to club members and I'm told that it all went quite well. I'm pleased to be able to announce that long time member, Everett Rantanen has stepped forward to handle the 8-bit diagnostics. If your 8-bit is feeling low,

bring it to the next meeting, or give Everett a call. Remember that the diagnostic services being offered are just that - a service and we cannot guarantee the accuracy of the testing. The diagnostics are run for members of MilAtari at no cost, and is intended to be a guide for you to determine the possible cause of any problems you are experiencing. If you feel you have a hardware problem after the diagnostics have been run, we would recommend you contact a dealer who currently advertises in our newsletter (of course).

As of today, we still have not held a Board of Directors Meeting because of the Holidays (as good an excuse as any!), so a decision as to the AIM magazine will be made on February 2nd. I will announce the details of the offer and how it will be implemented at the General Meeting.

Hope to see you on the 15th!

Lee



**How's about some
MilAtari PD
for your favorite Valentine?**

Computer "Cwips"

* * *

To err is human, but to really foul things up requires a computer.

Reader's Commentary

A New ATARI User's Viewpoint

John Milewski

Getting started in the world of Atari can be a complex and frustrating experience.

Just buying the equipment and reading the manual, I found, is not enough. There are many things about computers that are tough. Finding someone who is versed in the Atari machine is not an easy thing to do.

Learning about the MilAtari users group was a boon for me and I joined as soon as I could. This was the meeting of the Christmas party. Not much of a chance to really get to know many people, but I was at least able to find out a few things about the group. I was happy to see that there were many age groups represented; teenagers to retired people like myself.

One of the advantages of MilAtari is a chance to draw on the vast knowledge of the many interests. I observed that all aspects of the Atari are represented and it appears that most are willing to share their knowledge.

I have been able to teach myself quite a lot by just reading and observing, but I feel the most frustrating experience has been trying to find my way around the MilAtari BBS.

It is old hat for people who are used to it to get into the room that they want to use. Look at it from a newcomers point of view. You dial into the system for the first time and you are greeted by the opening dialogue.

The first time I tried to log on I was using half duplex as this was what GENie wanted me to use. Thinking that if GENie used it, it must be some sort of standard. Not so. I kept echoing back at myself and this was really a mess to work with. Did you ever try typing when all your letters keep doubling up on you? It's like driving a car with two steering wheels; one for the right front and one for the left front. What I'm getting at here is that I feel that MilAtari should put out a printed form of instructions for the use of the BBS.

I enjoy my Atari and I'm glad that I chose it over any of the other systems that are on the market. Its just that our sources of information are so limited that the more printed material we have, the easier it will be for the newcomer.

As a new member of MilAtari, I know I will enjoy the meetings and special events and I will try to be an active participant as soon as I feel I have the knowledge to contribute.

Many thanks to Carl Verbanac for his help with the de-arcng programs he demonstrated at the January meeting. This is the type of help that is appreciated by a novice and I'm looking forward to many more enjoyable meetings! ■

[Ed note: Welcome to the club, John, and thank you for the article for the newsletter! I have a feeling that you will learn a great deal very quickly from the group, as you seem ready and willing to jump right on in and do for your fellow member. I have found, through my own personal travails with Atari and MilAtari, that the best way to learn more about your computer is through volunteering to help in the day to day activities that make our club run. Oh, and John, look for help getting around the BBS - to be presented at the next meeting...in print, as you requested.]

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Desktop Publishing

DTP Basic Equipment Needs

Michelle Gross

Last month I promised to go into the basic requirements for desktop publishing. Understandably, your needs will differ in accordance to your goals; do you want to put out an occasional flyer, yearly Christmas card, or do you plan to try to enter the market as a freelancer, tackling every type of project from A to Z?

Let's start with bare minimum requirements, suggested configurations for the beginning hobbyist, and work our way up to an intermediate user.

Hardware Configuration

Obviously you will need a computer. I bet you can guess that my first choice would be an Atari ST. Bare minimum requirement, in terms of memory would be 1 meg of RAM. That, folks, is bare minimum. I would strongly suggest going up to 2 1/2 or 4 megs right away, but you will be able to create documents and print, especially on dot matrix printers, with 1 meg.

On the subject of monitors....I have been using my SM124 (monochrome) exclusively for some time now. I do not miss the color display at all. In fact, I use a super VGA monitor and Publish It! on an IBM clone regularly, and do not like it, not one little bit! I was told that "color was so much more fun to work on." Hogwash! For desktop publishing, give me my hi-res monochrome display! The more advanced users will want to look in to the large-screen monochrome monitors. I understand they're like hard drives; once you have one, you'd never return to floppies.

Finally, you should have a second disk drive. I am not sure if any of the programs work off one floppy, but if so, it would most definitely require much disk swapping. If you will notice, the pricing on hard drives for the ST have come down considerably, so look into picking up a hard drive rather than a second floppy. Ever since we bought a hard drive, our second drive is seldom used. For

the purposes stated herein, a hard drive will do much more to improve speed and performance on your desk top.

In summary, your starter system for beginning desktop publishing would include an ST with a minimum of 1 meg, monochrome monitor, and 2 floppies or preferably a hard drive.

What about the printer? This particular piece of equipment is entitled to an article of its own...but I'll try to keep it down to a paragraph this month. It is very tempting to recommend everyone's favorite, the Panasonic 1124i, but I wouldn't suggest that everyone run out and buy one today. Watch the market closely for the next year as laser printers are really falling in price.

If you are really serious about DTP, or have the need for first class output, you will need a laser printer, if not now, soon. (Usually the soon gets to be urgent when you catch the DTP bug.) As the color laser becomes more attractive in price, you will see the "black and white" models really come down. I would also suggest NOT EVER passing up last year's model...just because it is last year's model. The latest and greatest is not always the best buy!

An entirely optional piece of equipment for the novice is the scanner. Put it down on the bottom of today's list. It is really nice to have, but not a necessity. Clip art is an essential component of the printed page, but there are many, many sources of img files, at reasonable prices in the public domain that will take care of your initial needs. (Besides, as a member of this user group, you can have your illustration scanned at very little cost by contacting the editor....all proceeds going to the club!)

Software Requirements

As I began my column months ago on this topic, I would refer you back to those issues. For this month, I will summarize your

software needs, in order of necessity.

Word Processor

You must have a word processor if you plan to do anything more than simple one page posters. If any amount of typing needs to be done, it must be done within your word processing program. I use Word Writer, but there are many others to choose from. On the public domain front, we have users who swear by STWriter Elite, which is still being updated and supported. Other choices include Regent Word II, still available in some software houses; That's Write, a newcomer to the US that I have not had the opportunity to see; and of course Word Perfect. I know there are others, so please excuse any omissions.

Page Layout Software

We are indeed fortunate in the ST world, as we have several quality packages to choose from: Pagestream, Calamus, Publisher, and the document processor, Wordflair. There is at least one PD desktop publishing program that I know of. Pagestream, Calamus, and Wordflair each have demo programs available also, and I would encourage you to play with them for a while before deciding on a package. Check our pd software library for these programs.

Miscellaneous

As I mentioned earlier, you will want to start collecting clip art for your projects. You will save yourself much time if you are successful in organizing your files. I suggest you keep your clip art on floppies and catalog them. This is very easily done using IMAGE CAT by Wiz Works. This program is very reasonably priced, and comes highly recommended.

If you are a Publisher user, you may want to look up the public domain program PS Capture. (Actually, this program is shareware, so send in your stipend if you find it useful!) This little program has been used extensively in the past to save the newsletter onto disk in postscript language. Once on disk, you can take the file to any printer who outputs from postscript files and have a hard copy lasered. It works beautifully! The docs are also well written and easy to follow.

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ST Public Domain

February Fanfare

Dennis Wilson

MilAtari Ltd. Public Domain Library Disks are available at the meeting at a price of \$3.50 per disk, and through mail order at \$4.00 per disk. Special package prices may also be in effect at club meetings for certain disks or quantities of disks. The charge for the disks covers the cost of the media and handling, with all proceeds going to support the activities of MilAtari Ltd.

Some of the programs on these disks have been released as shareware and are so documented in the programs themselves. MilAtari Ltd. supports the shareware concept and you are encouraged to make donations to the individual authors should you find their programs useful.

The MilAtari PD Libraries are intended to provide a repository for useful and interesting programs, and each file is tested before inclusion on the disk. We believe that each file is worthy of your consideration. No warranty is expressed nor implied, however, as to their content or usability. Defective disks will be gladly replaced. These disks are made available for sale at the the monthly club meeting and may be ordered in advance by posting a message in the Library Lounge on the club BBS. Librarians of other clubs are encouraged to contact our ST Librarian concerning trading of programs in their respective libraries.

DISK 351 - BOOT DISK

A selection of accessories and programs for the AUTO folder on your boot disk. This disk is a stand-alone, ready-to-run disk, with all AUTO folder programs in an AUTO folder on the disk.

- ACCTOOL: Acctool V 1.2 - An accessory based toolkit designed to allow you to do operations within other applications which are normally not supplied by the application itself. For example, finding the time whilst writing a document. Formatting a disk while in Degas Elite, searching for a file inside Tempu\s.
- BUSYBUD: Busy Buddy - An telecommunications accessory designed to prevent an automatic timeout while connected to a BBS.
- CAL53: Cal v5.3: The Calendar Program - A calendar program with a difference - it lets you attach 'events' to any day of the year, either by date or according to a day's position in the month. When Cal loads, it reads the current date from your system clock and checks to see if any significant events are scheduled for the day. If so, Cal displays an alert that shows you

the day's events. When Cal loads as an accessory, it dings the system bell if a significant event is scheduled. Cal can also communicate with CodeHead's HotWire to set up the day's alarms automatically! Also included is a completely rewritten version of CalShow that functions as an AUTO program, a full GEM-based program, or a desk accessory. As an AUTO program, CalShow will read the events from Cal and display upcoming events on screen, then pause so you can easily see what's on tap for the next couple weeks.

- CHMELEON: The Chameleon V 1.17 - A short accessory, less than 5k, that can load every other accessory at runtime, and the loaded accessory can be unloaded at runtime, without rebooting! Not only the RAM is freed, but also all resources that were used by the accessory are released too!
- CK_DEMO: CodeKeys! Demo Version 1.2 - CodeKeys is the macro tool! With CodeKeys, you can automate any task on your Atari computer. CodeKeys records all key and mouse button presses, and plays them back with precise timing, or as fast as possible. Macros can be recorded and played back from within any program (GEM or non-GEM), and fine-tuned with a flexible word-processor-like macro editing desk accessory.
- DCNOSTIC: DC No-Stic (No Stiction) v1.0 - An AUTO folder program designed to prevent hard disk stiction. Stiction is when your hard disk head sticks in one place. DC No-Stic will move the hard disk heads around after 5 minutes of hard disk inactivity.
- DC_HOMEY: DC Homey - An AUTO folder program which will position the mouse cursor in the middle of the screen when you press the <Alternate> + <Control> + <Left Shift> + <H> keys.
- KAOSDESK: Kaosdesk V 2.0 - An alternative Desktop for use under GEM 2.2, Atari GEM and also under KAOS 1.4.1. At the start of the Program, KaosDesk can alternatively be resident (quicker) or will completely terminate on returning to the DeskTop (more free Memory!). In each case all Windows are self-contained and the Desktop Background consistent. The program takes advantage of useful functions and operations found on a variety of computers, in particular the Macintosh Finder, the Amiga Workbench and the GEM Desktop 2.0.
- POST: Postcard - An AUTO folder program to set and reset the system clocks. You may run Post at any time, however. If the system is 'cold' -- power-on -- you will be shown the last time the program was run. If the system is 'warm' -- reset button -- OR 'hot' -- just running the program -- you will be shown the current system time.

DISK 353 - DEMO DISK

Wordflair Demo Disk - Wordflair is a "document processor." This is sort of a word processor with limited desktop publishing capabilities. This special version of Wordflair is fully operational. The only limitations are that you may not print or save documents that you

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IBM PD

February Favorites

Tom Bardenwerper

MilAtari IBM Library Disk #009

CLEAN75 (Directory) Supports: Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA
CLEAN.EXE: CLEAN-UP (CLEAN) is a virus disinfection program for IBM PC and compatible computers. CLEAN-UP will search through the partition table, boot sector, or files of a PC and remove a virus specified by the user. In most instances CLEAN-UP is able to repair the infected area of the system and restore it to normal usage. CLEAN-UP works on all viruses identified by the current version of the VIRUSCAN (SCAN) program. CLEAN-UP runs on any PC with 256Kb and DOS version 2.00 or greater.

SCANV75 (Directory) Supports: Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA
SCAN.EXE: VIRUSCAN (SCAN) is a virus detection and identification program for the IBM PC and compatible computers. VIRUSCAN will search a PC for known computer viruses in memory, the boot sector, the partition table, and the files of a PC and its disks. VIRUSCAN will also detect the presence of unknown viruses. SCAN works by searching the system for instructions sequencer patterns that are unique to each computer virus, and then reporting their presence if found. This method works for viruses that VIRUSCAN recognizes. To detect unknown viruses, VIRUSCAN can create a validation code or "CRC check" for .COM and .EXE files and append it to them. If the file has been modified in any way, SCAN will report that infection may have occurred. VIRUSCAN can also look for new viruses from a user-supplied list of virus search strings. VIRUSCAN runs on any PC with 256Kb and DOS version 2.00 or greater.

GIFDOT (Directory) Supports: Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA
GIFDOT.EXE: GIFDOT is a dot matrix printer utility for printing:
 1) ANY colored GIF picture (4 colors and up recommended), with any size (up to 32768 x 32768 x 256) - NO VIDEO REQUIRED WHEN LOADING ANY GIF FILE; 2) ANY VIEWABLE VGA/MCGA 320x200x256 color picture captured with VGACAP; 3) VGACAD pictures; 4) 16-color pictures converted to 320x200x256 with EGA2VGA; 5) Colorized or Grey-Scale converted MacPaint (READMACs) with MAC2GIF. GIFDOT is a totally revised version of VGAPRN which is graphics card independent - NO VIDEO CARD IS NECESSARY. Even if you are using CGA or Hercules cards, you can still print VGA or

SuperVGA GIF pictures as long as you have GIF picture files or 320x200x256 BLD/PLT files.

GIFDOT converts your colored pictures 256 grey shades on a 64 grey scale continuum, which you can then adjust the brightness and contrast levels through sophisticated Grey Scale Skewing (Brightness Adjustment) and Histogram-based Contrast Stretching algorithms, respectively.

GIFDOT uses the Floyd-Steinberg algorithm for dithering pictures; this error-distributed technique provides the illusion of a continuous grey scale limited only by your printer resolution. As such, GIFDOT has the capability to print in several sizes.

MR_LABEL (Directory) Supports: Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA
ML.EXE: MR. LABEL is a dedicated labeling program that lets you use your printer like a typewriter to create one-time labels or create and manage lists. MR. LABEL can quickly print a mailing label or channel text through a custom printing format. You'll find MR. LABEL to be immediately useful for everyday labeling tasks and for special projects. Included with your disk are several pre-written formats for use with popular continuous forms.

MR. LABEL offers professional features which are especially useful to secretaries, sales people, retailers, and people downloading files from mainframe computers. The easy to understand manual shows practical uses that everyone will find useful. Here's a summary of features.

► Print up to 9 labels across ▲ Use any Avery or Rediform label ▼ Print in any type font supported by your dot-matrix printer ▲ Avoid typing repetitive lines - remembers fixed text ▼ Auto-Increment, Sequential numbering ▲ Automatic centering ▼ Up to 10,000 copies ▲ Print letterheads, price tags, file folder labels, name tags, inventory slips, Rolodex cards; disk and cassette labels, anything! ▼ Design labels - any size; position text however you want and even vary type fonts between lines. ▲ Address envelopes; individually or continuous feed. Print the return address and destination address in one operation. ▼ Channel database records into printing formats that you design. ▲ Process database dumps. Cut and paste fields to form lists. ▼ Includes an easy to use, professional quality text editor that lets you edit up to 6 lists simultaneously in a full-screen mode. Includes search/replace and cut/paste capabilities.

MilAtari IBM Library Disk #010 Productivity

PC_STAT (Directory) Supports: Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA
PCSTAT.EXE: PCSTAT is a descriptive statistical report program providing basic statistics and histograms for two related data sets. PCSTAT is a full featured menu driven program utilizing a professional interface and

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ST PD
from page 6

create. To demonstrate Wordflair's power, the entire "EXAMPLES" folder is included on this disk. Wordflair uses the GDOS environment. We have included a copy of the "GDOS.PRG" program in the "AUTO" folder on this disk. The screen fonts are in the "GDOS.SYS" folder, also on the disk. Program runs in color, as well as monochrome.

DISK 353 - EDUCATIONAL DISK

- KIDKBRD:** Kid's Keyboard - This is a short program the author wrote for his two boys, ages 4 and 1 1/2. When a key is pressed on the keyboard, that keyboard character appears on the screen in a large-sized font. The program is designed to teach young children the keyboard. Included on the disk is the source program, KIDKBRD.BAS, for those of you which have GFA basic and wish to see/play/or enhance the program.
- MAGIC:** Magic Storybook- A demo of a large, multi-purpose educational tool designed to appeal to a very wide age range. With young children, only the easier to use functions are available. Despite this, they can still produce their own animated tales where each scene is accompanied by sounds of their choosing. Older children will be able to experiment with and use even the most complex of the program's functions. It is designed to be one of the few educational packages available at this time which will actually grow with children. It will be used for many years to come.
- MATCHABC:** Match-ABC, A Game of Memory - A 2-player memory game designed for pre-school-age children. It is a fun way for children to learn the letters of the alphabet, as well as to sharpen their memory skills. Another talent soon developed is their ability to manipulate the mouse. You will probably discover that this game offers a special challenge for grown-ups too. This is the type of game where a 5-year-old can effectively compete with an adult.
- MASTERDO:** Master Doodle - A drawing program which takes the Doodle part of the highly acclaimed Master Time and expands it into a program with a unique method of control, ideally suited to children. Included are pre-drawn shapes which are "assembled" into pictures. The disk is set up to autoboot this program.
- MATHQUIZ:** Math Quiz - A program which features quizzes on addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Also included is a simplified division section. "Grades" are computed and recorded.

DISK 354 - GAME DISK

- DEMODIVE:** International Sports Challenge - A demo of a sports game concerning a divingboard competition.
- HAWK:** A demo of a side-view scrolling shoot-em-up.
- TY:** Team Yankee - The demo of this tank platoon strategy game features the Pacific Islands scenario.

DISK 355 - GAME DISK

- AMMO:** Ammo Track - A racing game of the future where you are driving a air cushion-type racing car. The idea is to make it to the finish line in time. Wiping out the opposition with you cannon is encouraged! A first-person, behind the care arcade game.
- ENTOMBED:** Entombed - Being a master tomb builder gave Ya Salam many benefits - his own chariot space at the quarry, immortalization after death, a mummified crocodile for the kitchen, but it had one slight disadvantage, namely Ya Salam had to test the traps and pitfalls in the tombs he made! The game consists of five levels of platform fun so cunning you could dice carrots with them.
- KLATRIX:** Klatrix -A game true to the spirit of Tetris and Klax. It works in low resolution only. It was inspired by some screenshots in a games magazine from a Sega game called "Columns".
- MR_DICE:** Mr. Dice - Rows of dice slowly drop down the screen. If they reach the bottom, then the game ends. Shoot the descending dice with dice of the same number & colour to destroy them. If you make a mistake and the dice don't match, then a random dice will appear on the screen. If you shoot 4 of the same type of dice in a row, then you score a 'line'. Each time you score a line, the dice will retreat one row. Score further lines to stop the dice reaching the bottom of the screen, and hence ending the game. This is an extremely colorful variation on the game of Tetris.
- THBURNER:** Thunder Burner - A demo of an arcade game where you pilot a Battletech-type mech. This one takes off and converts into a plane when you pull back on the joystick! It features first-person, behind the mech view. Does not work on TOS 1.4. ■

Introducing the Newest MilAtari Members

Fred Buehner
Doug Duquaine
Lewis Rondou
Eric Schultz
A.F. Schwarz

Welcome to the club!

MAC PD Library

MAC ATTACK

Bob Garlock

The Mac Desktop

The Mac has a Graphical User Interface (GUI) or Goosy for short. A lot of people say that the Atari Desktop, GEM, is copied from the Mac. But then a lot of people think Apple got theirs from Xerox. There are a lot of differences and a lot of similarities between the two. I will recap some of the more interesting differences, and you can decide for yourself whether or not GEM is the better way.

The first thing that happens upon startup is a picture of a little Mac computer. If he's smiling you have passed the self test. If he's frowning then you got problems. The Apple must load a disk based program called the Finder. This Finder creates the gray desktop and basically gets things up and running. The desktop comes up with a Menu Bar at the top and disk drive icons and the trashcan along the right margin. Apple calls the Menus "pull down menus," but they actually work like "pop down menus." You touch the desired menu with the mouse pointer the click the Mouse. Apple mice only have one button; coordination problem here. You must keep holding the button down or the menu disappears. You move the pointer to the item you want to select then release the button to activate it. Mac in their undying effort to do things a little different don't use a control key. They have a little key with a cloverleaf on it that they call the Command Key. It looks pretty in their drop down menus for keyboard equivalent commands.

The Mac trashcan is interesting too. You can open it like a drive and read the files there. When you put something in

there it really isn't deleted until you use the Empty Trash command. The trashcan may also be emptied under certain conditions, whenever the Mac feels like it I think. The trash can also bulges when you put something in there to let you know you put something in there. I wasn't too impressed with this feature until I noticed that it unbulges when the Mac decides to "Flush The Trash". This way you know The file you really wanted back is now gone.

Mac floppy drives also act differently. There is no eject button on the Macs. When you want to remove a disk from the drive you must select the Eject command. The reason for this is that some of the disk information is stored in ram until the Mac ejects the disk. Manually removing the disk before the Mac is ready would probably corrupt the disk. What you're thinking is right. Power outages and/or system crashes can mess up your floppies. There is a Shutdown command that should be used before turning off the Mac. Failure to do so will cause problems.

There are a lot of other minor differences but nothing an experienced Atari user couldn't handle. The way Mac handles Desk Accessories, Fonts, Print Drivers, Initialization Files and Control Panel Devices is another story for another time.

Spectre #8 Games

Wolves

This is a very interesting playable Demo of a commercial arcade game. You are an adventurer that fights werewolves, monsters, etc. You can find and use weapons and eat Pizza. Cowabunga!

Action - Strategy Baseball

For all you sports fans that can remember Mickey Mantle's career batting average. Very playable.

Spectre #9 Applications

Mac A Loan Ver. 2.062

Your typical loan analysis program with lots of features.

UpWord Ver. 1.2

This is a full feature word processor with most of the goodies included.

Home Shopper Ver. 2.2

This is a shopping list manager for all those people who can't figure out how to make out a shopping list. This is really a nice program.

Imagery Ver. 0.5

This program converts graphic files from Atari, Amiga and IBM to the Mac's TIFF format. Handy if you like to play with picture files.

Retouch Ver. 1.0.1

This program allows you to touch up picture/graphic files. Very powerful. I was very impressed with the options available. ■

DISK PRICING

All 3½" disks are normally priced at \$3.50, however special pricing may be announced at club meetings.

For our long distance friends and "sister" user group members who wish to order via mail, the cost per disk is \$4.00, which includes postage, handling, and any other charges you can think of.

User Groups - consider "subscribing" to our pd on a monthly basis. Our pd collection ranks among the best in the nation...for details, contact us via our post office address, or call 414-453-3940.

ST Supplemental

DTP Fever

Bill Janutka

Disks #055 & 056
DEMO - Pagestream Vers. 2.1 (DS)

Pagestream is one of the foremost desktop publishing packages available for the Atari ST/TT. This demo has all the features except that it cannot save your work and when printed, your

piece will be partially covered by the words "PAGESTREAM DEMO VERSION." The program is over 300k and the spelling dictionary is over 200k. Both are on disk #055. Disk #056 contains the sample fonts and printer drivers. Using this demo is a good way to introduce yourself to desktop publishing.



IBM PD
 from page 7

context sensitive help. Statistics for both data sets and their difference include: Quantity Maximum Value +3 STD Deviation Minimum Value +3 STD Deviation Variation +2 STD Deviation Range -2 STD Deviation Average -1 STD Deviation STD Deviation

FINFREED (Directory) Supports: Hercules, CGA, EGA, VGA
 FF1.EXE: FINANCIAL FREEDOM HOME BUDGET is a program designed for home use in structuring a family budget, tracking expenditures and producing screen or printed records of monthly and year to date performance. It has the following basic features. 1. Tracks expenditures in up to 20 different home budget categories for both the husband and wife. 2. Tracks activity in as many as 10 separate financial accounts, to include checking, savings, bank card, department store charge, credit union accounts, etc. 3. Provides screen displays or printouts of actual his and hers budget performance compared to predetermined budget amounts in each category either on a year to date or monthly basis. 4. Has a check-like transaction entry screen with screen prompts of bank accounts, budget accounts and payees or income sources, which provide one-key data entry. 5. Includes a fun and easy check book reconciliation at any time during the month, whenever bank statements are issued. Allows for multiple function accounts—checks, debit cards, check guarantee credit, etc. 6. Builds a complete household data base of financial transactions which are easily accessed in a variety of useful formats. 7. Is driven by menus and self explanatory screen prompts which allow for instantaneous learning and uncomplicated operation. 8. Automatic year end closing procedure and data storage. ■

DTP
 from page 5

Fonts, fonts and more fonts!

While most programs come with the fonts necessary to keep you up and running for some time, you will quickly feel the urge for more fonts. They come in all flavors: pd and commercial. Unfortunately these "options" tend to be rather expensive, so I would be sure of your DTP choice before investing in fonts.

Resources

Pick up DTP magazines whenever you get the chance. Never mind if they are aimed at the IBM and MAC market. You can apply the tips and techniques easily to the ST platform. Many of the fonts offered are available in the ST market...indeed, using Pagestream some are fully compatible.

Subscribe to ST mags. They are few, but they do exist and offer reviews of new products and other worthwhile information. ST Informer is still going on strong; they assure me that they are not folding as has been rumoured by a recent breakup of their editorial team. Atari User is great, and so is the price! (Just attend our meetings for your free copy, or subscribe for direct to your home delivery.) Atari Explorer is another Atari publication. For DTP specifics, Radical Type is a mag out of Canada I subscribe to. It has been a little slow in going, but I recently spoke with the publisher and he assures me that the next issue is "coming off the press." I usually carry a few of these mags with me to the meetings, so if you'd like to see anything, please ask!

Since I touched on printers, next month's topic will be all about printers. I will compare the most popular models; their pricing and features.. Until then.... ♥

MilAtari Ltd. Personals

Members may place an ad in the personals free of charge for any computer related item. The fee for non members is \$5.00 per standard 1" ad. To place your ad, contact the editor via voice, or e-mail on the BBS.

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1040 ST with 2½ meg, TOS 1.4.
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NOTICE • NOTICE • NOTICE

The 9600 baud modem is NOW online...so if you are experiencing difficulties getting online, bring your problems to the meeting. We are working on the known problems.

Thank you for your patience!

February ♥ SIG

A special 2-part SIG will be held this month on Pagestream 2.1. The session will begin at NOON in one of the meeting rooms upstairs. We will break for the business meeting at approximately 1:00, and resume after the business meeting.

Session 1: Setting up your program...installation and setting defaults.
Session 2: Basic Page layout

If there is adequate interest, I will continue the SIG on a monthly basis. Bring your questions and problems. I will try to help.

Michelle



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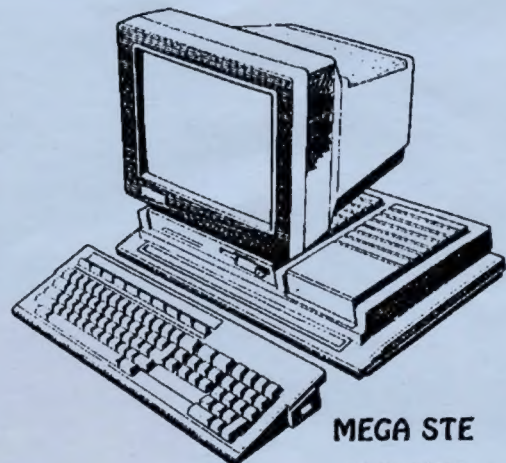
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